I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Arbill No. EV 534443925 U.S., in an envelope addressed to: NS Amendment, commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown bejow.

Docket No.: 559502000200 (PATENT)

Client Reference No.: PUSS0001A3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Shoichi TANNO

Application No.: 10/718,440

Confirmation No.: 9831

Filed: November 19, 2003

Art Unit: 2827

For: NONVOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR STORAGE DEVICE AND ROW-LINE SHORT Examiner: D. Lam

DEFECT DETECTION METHOD

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 2, 2006 (Paper No. 20060427), for which a response was due on July 2, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.